



SITUATIONAL INFORMATION REPORT FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Activity Alert

San Francisco Division

15 May 2013

SIR Number: SIR-00000006670

(U//FOUO) San Francisco, California-based Asian Criminal Enterprise Members Communicating Covertly via China-based Social Media Telecommunications Application 'WeChat', as of April 2013

SOURCE: (U//FOUO) A collaborative source with excellent access, much of whose reporting has been corroborated for less than one year.

(U//FOUO) As of April 2013, Asian Criminal Enterprise (ACE) members, including a member of the Hop Sing Tong, and an alleged 14k Triad Dragonhead in the San Francisco, CA, area utilized China-based social media phone application 'WeChat' for covert communication. The ACE members believed this allowed them to avoid detection and technical surveillance by law enforcement, since the internet servers used for the application were in China.

(U) This report has been prepared by the San Francisco Division of the FBI. Comments and queries may be addressed to the San Francisco Field Intelligence Group at 415-553-7400.

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San Francisco Division

450 Golden Gate Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94102

Fax: (415) 553-7674

Customer and Product Information

SIR Tracking ID: SIR-00000006670

Product Title: San Francisco, California-based Asian Criminal Enterprise Members Communicating Covertly via China-based Social Media Telecommunications Application 'WeChat', as of April 2013

Dated: _____

Customer Agency: _____

Relevance to Your Intelligence Needs

1. The product increased my knowledge of an issue or topic. (Check one)
- ___5. Strongly Agree
- ___4. Somewhat Agree
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- ___2. Somewhat Disagree
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2. The product helped me decide on a course of action. (Check one)
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